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The EXAMINER.

From Friday May 14, to Monday May 17, 1714.

Δήμῳ μὲν γὰρ ἔδωκα τόσον κράτος, ὅσσον ἐπαρκεῖ. Solon.

A LETTER *from a* Whig *in* Employment, *to a* Half-Pay Officer.

'YOU have told me, Dear *Charles*, your 'Sentiments concerning me, without Re- 'ſerve; and to ſhew how much I value 'the Obligation, I intend to return it in 'kind; and will make uſe of your Per- 'miſſion, to take the very ſame Freedom with you. 'The Charge you bring againſt me, is of a very black 'Complexion; and would give me a ſenſible Diſquiet, 'if I were not readily enough provided with an An- 'ſwer. To deſert one's Friends; to turn one's Back 'upon a good Cauſe; to make Court at the Expence 'of Conſcience and Principle; to fawn upon Ill-Men 'for the ſake of their Power; to pretend Converſion, 'or really to be Converted, upon private Views and 'Self-Intereſt; to Trim and Waver, and Tack to every 'Point; as the Trade-Wind blows, and the Loadſtone 'of Advantage draws us after it; theſe are baſe Mea- 'ſures and ſordid Compliances, which betray a corrupt 'Heart, void of all Honour and Virtue, and dead to 'any Senſe of the Dignity of human Nature. But then 'a *Fellow-Subject*, a *Fellow-Rational*, much more a *Friend*, 'would by no means advance a Charge of this high 'Nature againſt another, but upon the beſt Grounds 'and the cleareſt Evidence. Suffer me to enter into 'that Part of your *Letter* with an honeſt Freedom, and 'to ſift it throughly. 'Tis for this Reaſon that I prefer '*Writing* of *Politicks* to *Talking* upon that Subject. The 'making a Merit by a too forward Zeal in publick, 'hath often tranſported Men into Expreſſions, which 'in their retired Intervals, and Hours of Recollection, 'they muſt condemn: Whereas, we cannot be too 'cool upon Affairs of Moment: And I believe, *Charles*, 'when you are by your ſelf, you are too Good and 'Knowing, to decline a Review and juſt Cenſure of 'ſome of thoſe Exceſſes, which in *Party-Converſations* 'are almoſt unavoidable; where Men puſh at all, for 'the ſake of being thought Hearty in the Cauſe, and 'True to the Intereſt of their Party.

'You want no endearing Motives, to prevail with 'you to admit of a thorough Examination of ſome of 'thoſe *Common-places*, whoſe frequent *Uſe* can by no 'means atone for their want of a *Meaning*. That 'right Senſe of yours will oblige you to conſider the 'Objections you have made to my Conduct, with more 'regard to their own Intrinſick *Weight*, than to the 'Noiſe they make in *Coffee-Houſes*: And this, I con- 'ceive, was your Deſign, when you conſented to ſpread 'them upon Paper. You ſay there are ſeveral *Healths*, '*Teſt-Healths*, and *Political Toaſts*, which I am not wil- 'ling to admit: As particularly, *The Immortal Me- 'mory*; *The Speedy Voyage*, and *Safe Arrival*: The '*Health*, with a *HEM*: And that, which begins 'thus——*I think we have had the* Q——n (when no 'ſuch *Toaſt* was really mentioned) *Here's to the D. of 'M.* With ſeveral others, in which the Words *Reſto- 'ration*, *Downfal*, and *Confuſion*, are recited in Form. 'You tell me, I am not only Guilty of theſe Omiſſions, 'but that I drink to a *good Underſtanding* between 'Q——n, L——ds and C——ns: Proſperity to the *Pre- 'ſent M.*——y: Whoſe *Names* I can ſpeak out plainly 'and diſtinctly, upon theſe Occaſions: That I ſome- 'times put the *Ch—ch* before the *Houſe* of *H.*——*r*; 'and often Invocate, with an agreeable Reliſh, the 'reigning *Tory Beauties*; tho' they are not enroll'd 'among the brittle *Records* of the *Kit-Cat Club*. You 'further add, that I have quitted our Old *Club* at *Cha- 'ring-Croſs*; that of late I ſeldom appear at *Jenny's*; 'that I have left off buying *Snuff* at *Lilly's*; that *Sly* has 'often ſpoke of me among Friends with Coldneſs and 'Diſtruſt; and that I have been ſeen at ſome *Levees*, 'where 'twas believed I had been an utter Stranger. 'You go on in your Remonſtrances, and produce the 'reſt of your *Articles*, which I take to be moſt conſi- 'derable. That I have publickly declar'd for *Peace at 'home*: That I have wiſh'd for an End to our unhappy '*Differences* and *Diviſions*: That I juſtify the *Treaties* 'with *France* and *Spain*: And, That I look on the *Pro- 'teſtant Religion* and *Han——r Succeſſion* to be very ſafe 'under *Her Ma——'s* Adminiſtration; there being as 'good, if not a better Proviſion, by the *Laws* againſt 'the *Dangers* of *Popery* and *Arbitrary Power*, than when 'this Nation was pronounc'd to be in the moſt happy 'and flouriſhing Condition.

'Theſe, my Dear *Charles*, are the ſtrong Reaſons, 'for which you Cenſure my Behaviour. Theſe are the 'Proofs of my being a *Renegado* and a *Deſerter*. For 'this I am Ill-uſed and Branded with Diſgrace: Given 'up by a *Friend*, and loaded with the Imputations of 'Baſeneſs and Treachery. But give your ſelf leave only 'to Reflect a little; and you will ſoon find, that I am 'ſo far from being chang'd, that I have not quitted 'any one of thoſe Principles, which I formerly pro- 'feſs'd, when firſt I embark'd in Publick Affairs. If 'you ſay, theſe are the Marks your *Party* have agreed 'upon; that they have been given out by your *Leaders*, 'for their Followers to wear, and by which they are 'to be diſtinguiſh'd; I muſt then freely tell you, that 'either I never was a *Whig*, or the *Whigs* are more 'ſtrangely alter'd, than you can prove me to be. For 'did we really engage upon *Marks* only, or upon '*Principles?* Or were we to follow *Men* and not '*Things?* Could a *Tory* ſpeak more contemptibly of 'us? And as much a *Fawner* and *Vaſſal* as you may 'imagine me to be, I will not ſubmit to ſo unreaſon- 'able a *Dependence*, nor part with my Freedom for 'ſuch vile *Bondage*. Suppoſe I will not Soure or Pol- 'lute my *Leſſer Amuſements* and *Innocent Diverſions*, 'for the ſake of *Party*: Suppoſe I will not drink *Fire* 'in my *Wine*, inſtead of *Ice*; nor infuſe *Execrations* 'with the ſovereign Promoter of Mirth and good Hu- 'mour: Am I leſs a *Whig* for that? Or can you ſhew 'me, in all the Writings of our ableſt Advocates, 'where this Ceremony is made the Badge of my Pro- 'feſſion? I do not remember, that I ever yet drank 'Confuſion to the *Pope* or the *French K*; and I ſhall not 'now begin to do it, to any in Authority nearer home. 'The Reſpect I have for K. *W.*'s Memory, is very great 'and well-grounded: But ſince good and pious Men 'have very juſtly been offended with this *Toaſt*, for 'Reaſons by no means derogatory to his Honour, I ſhall 'readily deſiſt: Neither ſhall you ever find me *Tory* 'enough, to pay that Compliment to the pious Me- 'mory of K. *Charles* the Firſt. The *Houſe* of *H.*——*r* 'ſhall have my future *Allegiance*, in the ſame mea- 'ſure in which I now pay it to *Her Preſent M.*——*y*. 'For which reaſon I am willing to give a Precedent 'in *this Reign*, of my Behaviour in the *next*: And 'ſurely they are no Friends to the *Illuſtrious Family*, 'who endeavour to make the *Two Courts* Jealous of 'each other, by transferring their Submiſſion, out of 'Time, where it is not yet due; in the ſame Degree, 'in which *Her M.*——*y* claims it; and where it can- 'not yet be expected: For tho' the *Hereditary Right* is

'juſtly

juſtly cut off by that *Entail*; yet I know of no *Forfeiture* of the *Right* of *Poſſeſſion*. The *D.* of *M.* ſtands high in the Liſt of my *Heroes*; but nothing I have obſerved in his Conduct of late, can induce me to think, that he is Acceſſary to the Ill-uſe which hath been made of his *Name*.

'Hath he really left his Friends; or is he only retired 'to *Antwerp*? If the Whigs could not keep him here; 'upon what grounds muſt they hope they can at any 'time call for him over? I always thought him more 'truly capable of doing Service againſt *Her M*——'s 'Enemies, than againſt Her *Miniſters* and *Servants*: 'And therefore I do not ſee what Advantage it is to 'the Cauſe, to raiſe ſuch numbers of *Volunteers*, which 'he is not diſpos'd to accept of; and to Arm him 'againſt the only Potentate upon Earth, whom he ne'ver can Attack with Honour, nor hope for Succeſs in 'the Enterprize. Suppoſe I was heartily concern'd at 'the diſmiſſion of the *Late Miniſtry*: Yet how will 'this excuſe, or attone for my want of Decency and 'Gratitude, towards the *Preſent*? Their *Offices* and *Au'thority* demand a Submiſſion and Deference from me; 'which, upon no *Whig-Principles*, I can refuſe them: 'And a more than ordinary Eſteem is due to their *Per'ſons*, ſo long as they diſappoint us in the Forbearance 'of thoſe Oppreſſive and Arbitrary Meaſures, which 'we were always taught to look for from ſuch Mana'gers. If they are Sticklers for *Liberty* and *Property*, 'we ought to be as well pleas'd at the Change, as we 'were glad to receive ſome of your preſent Favourites, 'when firſt they came over to us: And in Fact nothing 'has been done, under this Sett of Men, with the leaſt 'Colour of Oppoſition to the *Old Whig-Maxims*, but 'what was ſet on Foot by your *New Converts*, and ſe'conded by the reſt of your Friends. As to the *Peace*, 'you told me it would be ſo very bad a One, and laſt 'for ſo ſhort time, that I am willing to make the moſt 'of your Compliment: ſince it has ſo far exceeded 'your Expectations, and outliv'd ſo many of your Pro'phecies. I did think, *War* might be a Bleſſing; but 'I alſo thought, there were ſome Bleſſings we might 'pay too dear for: And it is certain, that we gave 'more for a *Graft* upon the *Grand Alliance*, than the 'whole *Revolution* coſt. I plainly ſaw, that Private and 'Foreign Intereſt went too deep in that Affair: And 'as bad as the *Peace* is, I have good Reaſon to believe, 'the *Laſt M.*——*y* would give one Half at leaſt of 'their *Military Profits*, that it had been entirely of their 'making. Surely you will permit me, in general, to 'wiſh for *Peace at home*, and to Study and Promote 'it; ſince I am ſtill at liberty to wiſh, upon *what Terms* 'it ſhould be made. In Truth, you have ſo far em'broil'd us, that *Whigiſm* is ſplit and ſubdivided, into 'I know not how many Parts: Whereby the Party is 'weaken'd, and its ſoundeſt and beſt Principles loſt and 'forgotten. Any Settlement may be overturn'd by 'the Precedents you have ſet us: And whilſt the *Tories* 'change for the Better, and *You* for the *Worſe*, you 'ſhould, for your own Sakes, think of coming to a 'Conſiſtency. As to the *Danger* of the *Succeſſion*, ei'ther give over complaining about it, or cure us of 'our only *Cauſe of Fear*, by heartily Uniting with the '*Tories*, upon that Article. I am ſure if it be not ſuf'ficiently ſecur'd now, it was much more in danger, 'under your Patriots: And if I was not allow'd to di'ſtruſt the Proviſions you made, and the Care you took 'of it; I ſhall not forfeit my Reaſon, to do it now; 'when I ſee ſo many better and ſtronger Securities ad'ded to it: Whilſt the more *Props* you Invent, the 'more you cry out of the *Danger* of *Falling*. I am not 'ſo conſtant in my reſidence at *Charing-Croſs*, becauſe 'I hate the Sight of the *Pretender*, in any Garb; and 'I cannot think there is ſo great a Jeſt in ſhewing the '*Mob* a *Puppet* to laugh at, whilſt they are bid to be '*frighted* with a *Scarecrow*. But however, keep up your '*Spies*, and agree in your Intelligence: For which way 'ſoever *he* comes, I dare believe the Nation will be 'better prepar'd to meet him, than at his laſt Attempt 'upon *Scotland*.

'This, my deareſt *Charles*, is your Friend's Apology; 'and I think I may challenge you to ſhew, by what '*Sett of Principles*, or by what *ſingle Whig-Article*, at 'any time agreed to, or profeſs'd by the *Party*, ſince 'the *Revolution*, my Conduct ſtands condemn'd. I am 'afraid, my *Friend*, if there be any Change, it is on 'your ſide. We do but claim the Right of *Toleration*, 'and *Diſſent* from you, only to *Diſſent* from thoſe Cor'ruptions and Innovations, which you have introduced. 'What is become of that *Vertue* of *Moderation*, which 'was once ſo much talk'd of among us? Is it ceas'd 'to be a *Vertue*? Or is it out of Seaſon? What is be'come of that ſtrict adherence to the *Co-ordinate Powers*, 'and regard for the Dignity of *Par*.——*ts*, which for'merly diſtinguiſh'd us from the *Bigots* to *Arbitrary* '*Power*? Who are your *Leaders* at preſent? Have you 'not ſet your *new Converts* (*Converts* of a ſtrange Com'plexion, ſtill profeſſing their old Doctrines) at the 'head of your Affairs; when they ſhould only act as '*Subalterns*? What is your *Cauſe*, but *Pique* and *Paſſion*; 'the *Pique* and *Paſſion* of others, whoſe *Agents* and '*Inſtruments* you are, in that glorious Work? I know, '*Charles*, you went to the Wars upon a Motive of 'true Honour. I know the Intereſt you made, and how 'you roſe. But you were then, and are ſtill the *Q*—'s '*Servant*. They were the *Queen's* and *your Country's* '*Wars*: And the Men you now follow, can upon no 'account be call'd your *Country*. The *Gen*—*l* gives out 'the *Q*——'s *Commiſſions*, and not his own. It is '*Treaſon* to levy Men for any other Service. And 'when a Revolt is aim'd at, whoſe Party would you 'take, *Her M*——'s, or a *Brother-Officer's*? It is time, 'Sir, we ſhould convince the World we have *ſome re'gard* for *Monarchy*. May not *Leſ*—*y* and the *High-'Flyers* very juſtly Inſult us, upon ſome late Experi'ments? Since we profeſs *Reſiſtance* only in *one Caſe*, 'and yet appear ready to begin it in any; upon the 'leaſt Pretence, or upon none at all. If the Magi'ſtrate can have no Commiſſion from *GOD* to do 'Evil; how can the *People* plead ſuch a Commiſſion 'from *Nature*? Our Favourites are the *Laſt Mi*——*y*. 'But what then? Has not the *Q*—— ſome *Preroga'tive*? If you ſay, ſhe could not legally diſcard them 'without the *People*, you eſtabliſh the *Preſent M*——*y*, 'ſo long as the *People* are on their Side. But ſurely, 'they have Ill-will to our *Old Friends*, who bawl for *Im'peachments*, on account of the *Peace*, tho' approv'd by 'the *Legiſlature*; when there is no appearance of any 'ſuch Rigor, on account of the *War*, which hath been 'complain'd of as the greateſt Grievance, by the ſame 'Authority. I will not put you in mind, *Charles*, 'how much you owe to the Royal Bounty; nor make 'any Reprizals, for what you have ſaid of my being '*Dependent*, and *making Court* to Great Men. There 'is a *Dependence*, which is Mean and Slaviſh; and there 'is a Contempt and Scorn of *Dependence*, which is nei'ther conſiſtent with Duty nor good Manners. Men 'may have Expectations and Views at a diſtance; 'which may make them more Dependent, than any 'thing in Poſſeſſion. And I appeal to my *Friend*, whe'ther upon this *Lay*, you are not now hard at Work 'to Liſt Forces for your *Party*? Upon the wole, dear '*Charles*, look upon what you were *Six Years ago*, and 'you will know your Friend again. I am the ſame now, 'you were then: And you differ no more from me, 'than you do from your ſelf. But whatever Changes 'you accuſe me of, I am ſure you will not deny me the 'Satisfaction, of being always,

Deareſt Charles!

Your moſt affectionate Friend and Servant,

F. L.

ADVERTISEMENT.

May 7. 1714.

HAving no other way to let Philo-Baſilius know that his Letter to Mr. Steele is come ſafe to the Hands of Her (to whom it was directed) I take this And while the Author is pleaſed to remain unknown, can make no other Return but my Prayers to God Almighty for him, that he may now continue Stedfaſt and Unmovable in the Truth. I thank you for the Caution ſent with it. Tho' my Tongue is tied, I thank God my Conſcience is under no Tie but the Law of God.

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